

# STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY GOVERNING BOARD (SIGB)

## MINUTES

December 11, 2013 – Red Lion Colonial

**ATTENDEES:** Leo Dutton, L&C Co Sheriff; SIBG Chair; Ron Baldwin, State CIO; Jeff Fisher, DMA; Bonnie Lorang, MITS; Kevin Myhre, MT League of Cities/Towns; Larry Irwin, DOJ; Jon Swartz, DOT; Geoff Feiss, MTA; Larry Irwin, DOJ/MHP, Tim Burton, Governor's Office; Tim Fox, Montana Attorney General

**GUESTS:** Warren Dupuis, DOA ITSD, SPOC; Dan Sullivan, PSCB, SLIGP; E. Wing Spooner, PSCB; Jim Smith, MSPOA; Charlie Gilmore, L&C Sheriff's

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order 3:00 pm by chair, Leo Dutton. The newly appointed board members introduced themselves.

**Approval of August minutes:** Jon Swartz moved to accept the minutes of August, 2013; and Geoff Feiss seconded, the motion passed.

**Overview: SIGB Executive Order, Charter, By Laws:** Warren Dupuis provided information on SIGB federal guidance and a copy of the new Executive Order. Other correspondence provided for consideration/review included the existing SIGB Charter and updated DRAFT Charter, which will include new members, once completed. The By-laws will also need to be reviewed and considered for redrafting.

**Overview & Status Statewide LMR System:** Warren Dupuis provided history of the Public Safety Communications System and interoperability in Montana, which included information on the following:

- Dissolution of Interoperability Montana (IM);
- Border Interoperable Demonstration Grant (BIDP);
- SIGB Technical Working Group processes;
- Legislative Working Group purposes;
- Formation of the upcoming Broadband working group;
- Projects: microwave, trunking and the second zone controller;
- SW trunking, S. Central microwave and Hysham site issues;
- Warren pointed out that the system is owned by local jurisdictions. It *is not* owned by the state;
- HB10 and 63<sup>rd</sup> legislative involvement and the 7.11 system upgrade; and
- BNSF leased circuits, the Lincoln County site and opting out of the BNSF contract.

**Overview & Status: National Public Safety Broadband Network & FirstNet:** Warren Dupuis provided a presentation that included the following information:

- FirstNet will be the first high speed wireless broadband data network dedicated to public safety; it is a single, nationwide network that facilitates communication for public safety users during emergencies and on the job;
- Currently there one grant that is broken into two separate phases in process for the Broadband program;

- Montana's current Public Safety Radio Systems includes: 1) Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems; 2) Public Safety Owned Data Systems; and 3) Commercial Broadband;
- FirstNet will augment the LMR systems currently in place.
- Promise of FirstNet is to reach 56 states and territories, reaching 3,252 counties and 566 federally recognized tribes. Initially, FirstNet will be used to send data, video, images and text; and make cell quality voice calls; and will allow for access among public safety users;
- Costs for services and devices has not yet been determined;
- FirstNet will conduct state visits with designated state points of contact. Warren Dupuis is Montana's State Point of Contact (SPOC);
- States will participate by working through the SPOC and gathering requirements for developing its Radio Access Network (RAN) deployment plan.
- FirstNet plans to create an education and outreach program to engage tribal members about the network and their public safety needs;
- Geoff Feiss suggested that FirstNet identify their requirements/needs and have providers respond to those, rather than have an open ended question as to what infrastructure providers currently have.
- Bonnie Lorang commented on the SCIP workshop and that the recommendations made there would be beneficial for the SIGB to review and could then help supplement those recommendations.
- Once FirstNet delivers their plan to the State, the States will have 90 days to opt out and build out their own RAN; however, this will not be an option as Montana does not have adequate funds;
- The 2013 Legislature approved in HB2, \$1.860 million in federal authority for Montana to receive and expend the SLIGP grant funds that were awarded by NTIA.

**Overview & Status: State & Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP); FirstNet Planning Grant:**

The following SLIGP grant activities were explained:

- Governance Board Requirements
- Needs Assessment
- Education and Outreach to state, local and tribal governments and public safety disciplines to make them aware of FirstNet's broadband network deployment plans and service offerings.
- Answer Data Calls from FirstNet (yet to be determined); phase II federal funding (\$908,208) will not be released until FirstNet completes its business plan; and
- RFP for contractors.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the state capitol, room 137.